

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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February 4, 1999 LB 140A, 291A, 293, 293A

LB 291A.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: LB 291A is advanced to E & R Initial. Mr. Clerk, LB 293A.

CLERK: (LB) 293A, Mr. President, by Senator Matzke. (Read title.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Chair recognizes Senator Matzke, to open on LB 293A.

SENATOR MATZKE: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. This is the A bill on (LB) 293, which provides a fund for the plugging of abandoned and inactive oil wells. This is merely the authorization bill. The fund involves no tax funds. It involves a fee that will be paid by oil companies and oil operators into a fund that will be used by the Oil and Gas Commission, if necessary, to plug abandoned and inactive oil wells. This is merely an expenditure authorization up to a maximum of \$30,000. It's very possible only a fraction of that will be used. As I say, it involves no tax funds. It's a revolving fund based upon fees paid by the industry itself and I would ask for the advancement of 293A.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Seeing no lights, you're recognized to close on LB 293A.

SENATOR MATZKE: I waive closing.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Matzke waives closing. The motion before us is the advancement of LB 293A to E & R Initial. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 293A.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: LB 293A is advanced. That concludes General File appropriation bills. We'll now move to appropriation bills on Select File. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Smith, (LB) 140A, I have no amendments to the bill, Senator.